PTI holds walk against 27th Amendment

LAHORE: The Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf MPAs on Monday held a walk from the Punjab Assembly to Charing Cross on The Mall to record their protest against the passing of the 27th Amendment.

After submitting a requisition at the Punjab Assembly seeking debate on the 27th Amendment, the PTI MPAs, led by party's secretary-general Salman Akram Raja, marched from Punjab Assembly to Charing Cross. They were carrying party flags and placards bearing inscriptions "We reject 27th constitutional amendment."

At Charing Cross, the visually challenged persons also joined the PTI protest and chanted slogans that the government should give them jobs as per the promises.

Speaking to the protesters, Salman Raja vehemently rejected the amendment asserting that judiciary had been attacked and added the subservient judiciary could not serve the oppressed and have-nots.

He said the 27th Amendment had separated the judges, who could take stand for the poor on merit. Stating the PTI was standing tall for the respect and integrity of the judiciary, he asserted, "The PTI will not sit silent and continue fighting on roads and every other forum for the restoration of judiciary's respect, release of founder chairman Imran Khan from jail and the nation at large."

He said the PTI and its founder chairman Imran Khan were standing with the visually challenged and every unemployed youth that they should be given respectable employment.

Opposition Leader in Punjab Assembly Moeen Riaz Qureshi said the protest rally had been brought out from the assembly building on the directions of Tehreek Tahafuz Ayeen-i-Pakistan (TTAP). He said the PTI strongly condemned the passing of the amendment by the 'Form-47 government'.

Alleging the government wanted to cut NFC award under the new amendment, he said such a situation would result in a feeling of deprivation amongst the provinces.

— **Staff Reporter**

Motorway staffers perish as bus rams into patrol vehicle

By Our Correspondent

BAHAWALPUR: Four people, including three motorway police (MP) staffers, were killed and 10 passengers suffered injuries in three other traffic accidents in Uch Sharif areas of Bahawalpur and Vehari districts on Monday.

Reports said a Peshawar-bound bus rammed into a motorway police patrol on the Multan-Sukkur motorway near Uch Sharif, leaving three MP officials dead.

They were identified as sub-inspector Muhammad Mushtaq (30), ASI Muhammad Nasir (42) and constable Usama Ali (23). Their bodies were shifted to the Ahmedpur East THQ Hospital.

Uch Sharif and Ahmedpur East police reached the scene and impounded the coach and arrested its driver.

In the second accident on Dewan Sahib Road near Burewala, in Vehari district, a bus overturned due to speeding. Ten passengers, including four women, suffered injuries. Rescue 1122 officials shifted the injured people to THQ Hospital in Burewala.

In the third accident, motorcyclist Siddique (40) was killed while his pillion rider sister, Tahira, suffered serious injuries when their two-wheeler was hit by a car in Uch Sharif.

According to a PID Multan press release, funeral prayers for the Motorway officers were offered at Multan Police Lines.

Federal Minister for Communications Abdul Aleem Khan also joined the prayers and expressed his profound grief over the loss of brave officers.

The minister said motorway police would stand firmly with the families of the martyrs and continue to support them in every possible way. He ordered a comprehensive inquiry into the tragic accident and emphasized that all aspects would be reviewed thoroughly to prevent such incidents in future.

LAHORE: Lawyers stage a protest rally on The Mall against 27th Amendment. — White Star

Portal to apply for 15,146 teachers' posts remains non-functional

Candidates panic as application process is set to close on 21st

By Imran Gabol

LAHORE: Hundreds of aspiring teachers across Punjab are facing frustration and the risk of missing a crucial career opportunity as the official online portal for applying to 15,146 vacant school teacher intern (STI) posts remains non-functional, just days before the application deadline.

The candidates have reported that the STI Portal (https://sti.pesrp.edu.pk), the only channel to apply for the positions, has been consistently 'down' or 'not working', preventing them from completing their applications.

"I have been trying to apply for the STI post for the last five days, and the portal is not working," said Kiran Zahra, a candidate from Alipur. "I cannot complete my application and am worried I will miss this opportunity."

Another applicant, Khadija Fatima, said she was trying to apply for the post three to four times in the morning and evening daily but was not able to file an application. She said the candidates like her were receiving the message, "The gateway did not receive a timely response from the upstream server or application".

The recruitment drive, approved by the Punjab cabinet on Nov 5, aims to fill 30,000 positions for 'visiting teachers' in its first phase to address a massive shortage of teaching staff in the province. As many as 15,146 school teacher interns (STIs) are being hired right now.

The School Education Department (SED) is grappling with a total vacancy of 115,000 teachers. The vacancies for the STIs are spread across primary, middle, high, and higher secondary schools. In Lahore alone, 276 schools have vacant STI seats, with the highest numbers in Cantonment (95), City (62), Raiwind (47), Shalimar Town (40), and Model Town (32) tehsils.

According to the official schedule, the application process that began on Nov 12 is set to close on Nov 21. The merit list is to be displayed on Nov 26, with interviews on Nov 29, and the final list of selected candidates on Nov 30.

The candidates are required to deposit an application processing fee of Rs1,000 for each internship they apply for.

Despite the widespread complaints from applicants, an SED official claimed that the department had already received 150,000 applications through the portal. This contradiction has heightened anxiety among the candidates who have been unable to access the system.

The recruitment drive has also drawn criticism from teachers' unions regarding the employment model. Instead of permanent appointments, the government is hiring 30,000 teachers on a 'visiting basis,' with salaries to be paid per lecture.

Rana Liaqat, general secretary of the Punjab Teachers Union (PTU), argues that the province's severe shortage of 115,000 teachers can only be addressed through permanent recruitment.

"The visiting teachers will be given a salary on a daily wage model, and it will create additional problems for the schools," he says while speaking to *Dawn*.

He has urged the government to initiate permanent appointments within the school department.

The government has stated that additional funds will be released to the school councils for salaries of these visiting teachers, and the councils will also generate their own funds to meet school expenditures.

School Education Department Secretary Khalid Nazir was unavailable for comments despite repeated attempts to contact him.

With the Nov 21 deadline approaching fast, candidates are urging the education department to immediately rectify the technical issues with the portal to ensure a fair and accessible application process for all.

Another judge recuses himself from SIC, PTI leaders' pleas

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Justice Chaudhry Muhammad Iqbal of the Lahore High Court (LHC) on Monday recused himself from two separate petitions of Sunni Ittehad Council (SIC) chief Sahibzada Hamid Raza and PTI's former MPA Junaid Afzal Sahi.

The judge refused to hear the pleas, citing personal reasons and sent them to the chief justice with a request to fix them before any other appropriate bench.

Last week, Justice Khalid Ishaq had also recused himself from the same petitions, which were later fixed before Justice Iqbal.

The SIC chief challenged the by-election schedule for his constituency, NA-104, Faisalabad.

The petitioner's counsel, Bassam Ahmad Siddiqui, stated that Sahibzada Raza had been elected from NA-104 in the 2024 general election. He said the petitioner was disqualified following his conviction in a case related to May 9 attacks. He argued that the ECP had directly notified the disqualification of the petitioner without a reference by the National Assembly speaker as required by law.

The lawyer asked the court to declare the by-election schedule null and void.

Islamabad police had last week arrested Sahibzada Raza and presented before a Faisalabad anti-terrorism court, which sent him to jail to serve his 10-year jail term in the May 9 case. The SIC chief was convicted in the case along with several PTI leaders on July 31.

Junaid Sahi challenged his disqualification as a member of the Punjab Assembly, following conviction in a May 9 attack by a Faisalabad anti-terrorism court.

The petition said the ECP had no power to disqualify a parliamentarian without affording him an opportunity of hearing.

PLEA DISMISSED: The Lahore High Court on Monday dismissed for non-prosecution an application for the restoration of a writ petition by PTI leader Imran Khan seeking consolidation of proceedings of all cases against him.

Chief Justice Aalia Neelum had dismissed the 2023 petition for non-prosecution on Oct 29.

Later, the legal team of the PTI founder filed an application, requesting the court to restore the writ petition.

The hearing of the application was fixed before the chief justice on Monday.

However, neither the petitioner's counsel nor any representative appeared before the court.

At this, the chief justice dismissed the application for non prosecution.

Previously, a law officer had informed the court that a total of 107 cases related to May 9 riots were pending adjudication against the petitioner.

Imran Khan had filed the petition in 2023 through Advocate Sardar Latif Khosa before his conviction in Toshakhana reference.

The petition stated that the cases were lodged against the petitioner on political grounds and many of them involved similar charges in different cities across the province.

The petition argued that in several cases, hearing dates were fixed on the same day in different cities, making it impossible for him to appear before multiple courts simultaneously.

Therefore, it was requested that all cases be consolidated for convenience.

Mayo received 1,796 dog-bite cases in 14 months, LHC told

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court (LHC) was informed on Monday that the Mayo Hospital received over 1,700 dog-bite cases during the last 14 months.

A report submitted by an additional medical superintendent (AMS) of the hospital says that its accident and emergency department treated 1,796 patients,including children, who suffered dog bites, since Sept 24, 2024.

The report was filed during the hearing of a petition filed by Young Doctors Association (YDA) Secretary General Dr Salman Kazmi.

The petitioner seeks urgent action against the rising population of stray dogs and the unavailability of rabies vaccines across the province.

Justice Khalid Ishaq expressed his concern over the growing number of dog-bite incidents.

Acknowledging the animals rights, the judge, however, said the children could not be left to be bitten by dogs on the streets.

He directed the departments concerned to submit their detailed reports at the next hearing.

The petitioner's counsel, Azhar Siddique, said the administration had not been taking action against stray dogs, pointing out that children cannot go outside in various localities of the city because of the menace.

He argued that the Animal Birth Control (ABC) Policy 2021, which bans dog culling, needed to be declared null and void.

He asked the court to direct the authorities concerned to provide free rabies treatment in all public hospitals and to compile a comprehensive report on the dog-bite cases, rabies fatalities and vaccine stocks across Punjab.

The lawyer further urged the court to suspend an earlier restraining order issued by the LHC in March 2025 that halted the killing of stray dogs under the ABC Policy, arguing that it had worsened the public health crisis.

— **Staff Reporter**

MILITARY ENGINEER SERVICES NOTICE OF TENDER

No 6025-AdvZ 08 /E-6 17 Nov 2025

01.	The office of GE (Air) Masroor invites sealed tenders for the following Works in the light of PPRA Rule 13(1) of 2004:-		Costing Approximately	
02.	a.	Provision of Bazaar Supply Materials (E&M Items) for Residential / non-Residential area at PAF	2.347 (M)	(EE)
03.	The contractors are required to submit their applications for issuance of tender documents along with their complete credentials as shown at (serial 9). The applications shall be scrutinized and the tender documents will only be issued to the firms who have sufficient experience in the relevant field and satisfy other special conditions required for the job and area. Tenders will only be issued to scrutinized contractors. The tender must be received in the acceDtina office bv 1130 Hrs on 05 Dec, 2025 and will be opened at 1200 Hrs on the same date.			
Note:-	Contractors shall provide certificate that they are not involved in any type of litigation with Government Department in the Court of Law and that no special report of Directorate of inspection and Evolution (E-in-C's branch GHQ) is outstanding against them.			
04.	All Contractors, will certify in writing that they are registered with Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC). And will submit a copy of their registration. Contractors not registered with PEC are ineligible to apply.			
05.	Contractors born on approved List of MES in Categories 'B', 'C' & 'D' and above also having experiences of this type of work may only apply.			
06.	Contractor who desire may be present at the time of opening of tenders.			
07.	The accepting officer reserves the right to accept or reject the tender. Rejected tenders will be dealt with as per pare 33 (i) of PPRA Rules.			
08.	The interested parties can contact GE (Air) Masroor authorized representative for further details from 0800 to 1400 hours on all working days.			

SL NO	Name of Work Executed during the Last 2 years	Agency	Amount of work	Time Allowed (Months)	Date of Commencement	Date of Completion	Percentage progress of work in hand	Departmental performance report on each work by the Engineer in Charge

(SAAD HAMID)
SQN LDR GE (AIR) MASROOR
TELE No 021-99241030

PID(K)1751/25

Business confidence slides 'slightly', inflation top concern: Gallup

Views on country's direction worsen from –2pc to –8pc; 10-point drop in future business expectations

By Khalid Hasnain

LAHORE: A Gallup Pakistan's survey for Q4-2024 (October-December) reveals a decline in confidence since Q2-2025 but remains stronger than last year.

The findings show a 'moderate' decline across all three components - current business performance, future expectations and perceptions of the country's direction of the index compared with Q2-2025.

Regarding economic management, 46 per cent of businesses rate the current PML-N government's performance as better than the previous PTI administration, unchanged from Q2 and five points higher than a year ago.

The report titled "16th wave of its Business Confidence Index (BCI)" was released on Monday, capturing the views of 571 statistically chosen businesses across Pakistan for Q4-2025 (Oct-Dec). The survey measures the aforementioned components (current business performance, future expectations and perceptions of the country's direction), offering a timely and broad-based pulse of Pakistan's business climate.

Opinion on current business conditions fell from +20pc to +8pc, indicating fewer businesses now describe their situation as good or very good. The perceptions on future business expectations declined from +22pc to +12pc, a 10-point drop in optimise, while views on the direction of the country worsened from –2pc to –8pc, reflecting a slightly more pessimistic outlook.

Despite this softening, all three scores remain better than Q4-2024 as well as most of 2022–2023, suggesting an improvement in medium-term business sentiment. Inflation continues to be the most cited problem, with 33pc of businesses wanting the government to prioritise price stability.

After a consistent decline in inflation rate, recent few months have seen an upward movement across food as well as energy markets in Pakistan.

"42pc of businesses reported power outages on the day of the survey, similar to last year. Despite massive investment in electricity infrastructure, consistent supply remains a major challenge crippling the economy," the report states.

"Business Confidence has slid slightly, but the message from businesses is clear: economic stabilisation is not enough, without a stronger growth rate, sentiment will continue to move in short bursts rather than in a steady upward path," Bilal Gilani, executive director of the Gallup Pakistan comments.

"The stability helped, but growth now has to take the lead. The PML-N-led government, however, continues to be entrusted with confidence by the wider business community to bring about relief and reforms," he said.